

PORT OF MESSINA RESTORED

FINE STONE PIERS WILL BE READY WITHIN TWO MONTHS.

Then the Sicula-Americana Line Will Put on Two 12,000-Ton Passenger Steamships Plying to New York—No More Landing of Passengers by Small Boat.

G. W. Peirce of the Sicula-Americana line of steamships, plying between this port and the Mediterranean, whose father practically owns the line, said yesterday that on his visit to Messina last month he was struck by the rapidity of the city's regeneration; its fine stone piers will be ready for use again in less than two months, he believes, and the vessels of the line will be able to discharge cargo while moored alongside, as of old.

The fact that Messina is on the way to regain her prestige, shattered by quake and flame, was one of the reasons the line decided to put on the route that ends at Messina two big twin screw steamships of about 12,000 tons and a speed equal to some of the best of the Italian liners. The vessels, which are building in England and will be called the *Giugliano* and the *San Giuseppe*, and they will make Naples from New York in about eleven days. The line has two other ships, the *San Giovanni* and *San Giorgio*, which would indicate that Mr. Peirce is fond of the G saints.

Mr. Peirce said that if the line depended on Messina alone for trade and passengers, chiefly immigrants, it would not make much money. But the line believed that Messina would eventually be a great port again, despite the smoking ruins that nature gave her. The Italian Government was optimistic. Immigrants taking passage from Messina now had to submit to two medical examinations, one at Messina and the other at Naples, whence they were transported from Messina to the island by the Italian Government. When the docks were ready two months hence, so Mr. Peirce said, the steamships of the line would be permitted for the first time in the history of the port to land passengers directly on the piers instead of taking them ashore in boats, as heretofore. Only cargo boats had been permitted to go alongside the piers before the earthquake put them under water. The head office of the company, which had been at Messina, was transferred to Naples after the earthquake and only a branch office is now open at Messina.

Mr. Peirce said that there had been a widespread misunderstanding about the Italian lines in the island service being subsidized by the Italian Government. The subsidy that the Government paid was solely to steamships plying the Adriatic and the Aegean seas, and carrying mail of all nations sent by way of Italy to ports and islands of the Mediterranean and ports of the Adriatic. The Navigazione Generale Italiana held the Italian contract carrying this mail, using five swift small steamships for the purpose, and recently gave notice that it wanted more money for the job.

The Italian Government then decided to put up the job at auction. The mail carrying privileges were divided into groups. The Sicula-Americana line was one of the groups, that taking in Genoa and the district contiguous, and that including Venice. The Italian Parliament was discussing yesterday the awarding of the contract and the Sicula-Americana had hope of getting the two it had bid lowest on.

Mr. Peirce said it was a profitable business notwithstanding that the line would have to buy five boats from the Navigazione Generale and that at the end of five years it would have to build ships with better and swifter ones with a speed of from twelve to eighteen knots.

HAT IN THE HIGHER BRANCHES.

It Dipped Came Down, Either, Although the Owner Waited for It.

A young man wearing a soft felt hat was walking along Riverside Drive yesterday afternoon when a puff of wind took off his hat and sent it drifting straight up in the air. It rose about thirty feet, "the motor working perfectly," as the aeronaut who saw the occurrence said, and caught on a sharp pointed twig. There it stuck, bobbing about in the breeze.

The young man, looking rather grim, sat down on a park bench to wait for the fall. A sweeper stopped work to look up. "You better climb the tree," he said jestingly. A small crowd gathered quickly and easily. "Call out a fire engine," was one workable suggestion. The loser of the hat merely sat there. "I'll wait until another gust brings it down," said he.

"You'll wait a long time," said the man who collects leaves, going about his work. Just about ten minutes later, when the crowd had thinned out considerably and the young man on the bench was getting a slight cold, a giant puff dislodged the hat.

"See!" said the young man in triumph. "Look what patience will—"

He didn't finish. The wind carried the hat higher up to a still more inaccessible peak and slammed it down so hard on the higher branch that the crown of the hat was punctured.

"Guess that'll stay there a while," the young man said gloomily, "and even if I don't I can't wear the hat."

So he left, going over toward Broadway to buy a cap.

NEW TERM FOR JUSTICE.

Both Parties Will Renominate John Woodward Next Fall.

The term of Supreme Court Justice John Woodward of Buffalo, redesignated a short time ago by Gov. Hughes as a member of the Appellate Division of the Second Department, expires on December 31, 1910. Republicans of the Eighth Judicial District who were in town last night said that the Republicans will renominate John Woodward and that they have the assurance of Chairman William J. Conners of Buffalo that the Democrats will endorse him. Mr. Conners confirmed this statement, at the same time calling attention to the very general custom which prevails in up-State judiciary districts of the two parties supporting all renominate candidates for the Supreme Court bench.

Think They Have Rainier Safe Robber.

MONT HOLLY, N. J., Nov. 17.—Prosecutor Samuel A. Atkinson received a telegram this morning confirming the report of the arrest in Chicago yesterday of John Ellsworth on the charge of having robbed the safe in the home of Schuyler Rainier at Florence on November 5 of several thousand dollars. The authorities say that the man arrested bears a remarkable resemblance to William Hamilton, the farmer who was at first arrested on suspicion and placed under bail.

Thieves Worked While McKennas Were at Dinner.

Thieves came in by the scuttle on the roof of the house of Charles F. McKennas, at 155 West Ninety-first street, yesterday evening while the family were at dinner. They got \$2,000 worth of jewelry. Mr. McKennas's son finished dinner before the others and went upstairs. The thieves, it is supposed, ran away when they heard young McKennas approach.

Wife of Ex-Congressman McGuire Gets Divorce.

OKLAHOMA, Nov. 17.—Mrs. Anna Mattingly McGuire got a divorce to-day from Bird Segie McGuire, member of Congress from Oklahoma, for seven years, on the ground of incompatibility.

FINES FOR SHORT WEIGHT.

City Gets Convictions in Thirty-seven Cases in Municipal Court.

A large number of actions brought by the city against various individuals, grocers, butchers, &c., for using incorrect weights and scales were tried yesterday morning before Justice Wauchope in the Sixth District Municipal Court. Herman Stiefel, Assistant Corporation Counsel, and William J. Millard, deputy assistant, appeared for the city. Justice Lynn imposed heavy penalties and said he would do all in his power to do away with the practice of giving short weight.

The following is a list of the defendants and of the fine imposed in each case:

Eben A. Smith, 2507 Eighth avenue, \$10; Frank Hein, 2478 Eighth avenue, \$25; Pietro Condi, 312 East Twenty-ninth street, \$25; Ernest Messner and Alfred Messner, 200 East Twenty-ninth street, \$25; Genaro Guerriero, 236 East Twenty-ninth street, \$25; Agostina Siracusa, 231 East Twenty-ninth street, \$25; Frank Pirano, 315 East Twenty-ninth street, \$25; Anton Geier, 207 Columbus avenue, \$5; Giovanni Buola, 215 Mott street, \$10; Genesora Presilio, 100 Thompson street, \$25; Varmine Curo, 131 Thompson street, \$5; Giuseppe Alberti, 136 Chrystie street, \$25; Edward Weitz and David Weitz, 1485 Madison avenue, \$25; Michael Resnick, 20 West 118th street, \$25; Joseph Sobin, 2 West 136th street, \$25; Joseph Sobin, 2 West 136th street, \$10; Vincenzo De Maio, 207 Mulberry street, \$25; Jacob Bloch, 375 Ninth avenue, \$75; Max Schwartz, 93 Columbia street, \$25; Elek Korn, 101 Cannon street, \$25; Farrio Tabel, 97 Lewis street, \$25; Dora Greenfield, 86 Lewis street, \$25; Adolph Feldman, 319 Stanton street, \$25; Ephraim Maurer, 38 Goerck street, \$10; Isaac Santer, 95 Goerck street, \$25; Harry Freibaum, 107 Goerck street, \$25; Marie Igro, 230 Elizabeth street, \$25; Frank A. Socero, 242 Elizabeth street, \$25; Tomaso Dimino, 214 Elizabeth street, \$25; Casper Dimino, 215 Elizabeth street, \$25; Carmela Guarniere, 9 Spring street, \$5; Paola Alongi, 106 Elizabeth street, \$25; Antonio Cozzola, 17 Spring street, \$25; Louis Silverman and Sidora Stauch, 31 Madison street, \$25; Joseph Carragalla, 117 Mott street, \$25; Vincenzo Guerriero, 81 Mott street, \$25; Sissio Esposito, 85 Mott street, \$25.

MRS. FORD GETS RAIL.

Woman Accused by Warriner Finds Willing Friends.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 17.—When Justice James S. Myers arrived at his office early this morning Attorneys Thorndyke, Gederle and Capelle were waiting to give bond for the release of Mrs. Ford, of Stewart. A surety company signed the bond. A cab was despatched for Mrs. Ford, and within half an hour she was telling her story to her attorneys. The case will be called to-morrow.

"I am not at liberty to tell who has come to the front for Mrs. Stewart," said Attorney Thorndyke, "but I will say that she has some friends who will stand by her. One of them is a man I have known for years."

Attorney Thorndyke made a motion to fix Mrs. Stewart's bond at \$30. "Charles Warriner has been arrested on a charge of embezzlement," declared Thorndyke. "He has signed a confession admitting that he took \$643,000 of the company's money. Yet his bond was fixed at \$20,000 and he was allowed to live for days at the Sinton before he was arrested."

"This woman is alleged to have received \$1,000 of stolen money. She was taken from her home at a time when she was unable to obtain bond on the instant, and thus compelled to spend the night in jail. If the theft of \$643,000 is covered by \$20,000 bond then by a simple arithmetical computation we arrived at the fact that Mrs. Stewart's bond should be \$30."

Magistrate Myers smiled and admitted the arithmetical accuracy of the statement, but declined to reduce the bond.

Mrs. Stewart's attorney was waiting outside her cell in No. 11. He ate no supper, but managed to partake of breakfast.

GEN. GRANT AND WIFE IN FIRE.

Latter Slightly Burned and Helped Down a Ladder by Firemen.

CHICAGO, Nov. 17.—Gen. Frederick Dent Grant, commander of the Department of the Lakes, and Mrs. Grant were assisted down ladders by firemen when flames attacked their home at 1405 Dearborn avenue early to-day.

Mrs. Grant was burned slightly about the hands.

The household was sleeping when smoke was discovered at 6:30. When the fire companies dashed up the General and his wife appeared on the balcony. Smoke was pouring from the windows and crowds were collecting.

A ladder was hastily erected against the balcony. Firemen mounted half way. Gen. Grant helped Mrs. Grant to find a footing on the rungs, and the firemen assisted her to the street. The General followed while the crowd cheered.

Domestics were also carried to safety, half fainting, by firemen.

The house in which the Grants were living is owned by the estate of Dr. Nicholas Senn. It is one of the oldest in the city and is said to have been the first built after the fire of 1871. It is a two-story brick structure, with basement and attic. An overhanging furnace is supposed to have started the blaze.

PRUDENTIAL'S ASSESSMENT.

County Tax Board Upholds Newark Board's Action—Company to Appeal.

The Newark tax board's assessment on the \$14,894,418.00 special deferred dividend reserve fund of the Prudential Insurance Company was sustained yesterday by the Essex County Board of Taxation. The fund, the board held, is not a liability, as set forth by the insurance company, and therefore is not exempt from taxation.

A letter was sent to Edward D. Duffield, counsel for the insurance company, advising notice of the board's decision and the city authorities were also notified. On an appeal filed by the insurance company the county board was asked to pass upon the validity of the assessment and argument was heard on November 9. The Prudential will appeal to the New Jersey State Board for the Equalization of Taxes.

Special Car to Go Through Pennsylvania Railroad Tunnels To-day.

A party of officials of the Pennsylvania Railroad and invited guests will to-day make a trip through the road's system of tunnels from Harrison, N. J., to the Sunnyside railroad yards in Long Island City. In the party will be President James McCrea and Vice-President Samuel Ross. The trip will be made in President McCrea's private car, which will be pushed by a locomotive to avoid as much as possible the coal gas from the smokestack. The party will go from Manhattan to Long Island City through tube D and return through tube B.

Station Barn Burned, Pleading Swear.

Francis Lynde Stetson's barn at Tuxedo burned down early yesterday morning and two valuable horses lost their lives in it. How the fire came to start is a mystery in the fashionable colony and Mr. Stetson's servants do not know, because almost every one of them was attending the soiree which was being given by the servants of Prof. J. D. Prince of Columbia University, who is a country resident far from Mr. Stetson's. The Stetson family was away.

TOO MANY PEOPLE IN TOWN.

OR ELSE NOT HOTELS ENOUGH FOR FOLKS WHO CAN PAY.

If You Are Coming on Your Wedding Trip, Inquire in Advance—Room Clerks Try to Stretch Their Diagrams—Serious Difficulty in Getting a Place to Sleep.

An atmosphere of tragedy pervaded the atmosphere of the St. Regis for a full hour yesterday afternoon.

Two men stood at the desk arguing, pleading, entreating and almost threatening the room clerk by turns. When they entered it was almost 4 o'clock, and one of them was to be married at 8 o'clock at night and there was not a room in the hotel to be had.

The marriage had been arranged to take place in the ballroom of the hotel, but owing to some mistake a room had not been reserved. The clerk studied his room list and shook his head. The bridegroom walked up and down the lobby. His companion, who was to be best man, gripped his teeth. They talked together. They appealed to the clerk. He tore his hair.

Another bridegroom who had asked for a suite for the night telephoned in, and he was put off with rooms at another hotel. The clerk tried to persuade the one present to go elsewhere.

A woman came in from an automobile trip with her maid and demanded rooms. She had engaged two weeks before. "Madam," the clerk said, "I have your room for you, but in my absence this afternoon it was let by mistake." Then he wearily turned to the impatient bridegroom. "The list is gone over again, and again, but without result, until the bridegroom seemed to be on the point of a collapse, as 5 o'clock was approaching."

Finally on the clerk's face appeared a gleam of hope. He called the house-keeper and then began a four-cornered argument. At the end the house-keeper agreed to surrender her room to the bride couple and the bridegroom smiled for the first time in an hour.

At most of the hotels the situation yesterday was similar, and hotel clerks say that never has there been so great a demand for rooms in New York. The close of the season does not mean that to have remedied matters in the least. The crowd keeps coming and every day the telephone are kept busy between hotels in the effort of one hostelry or another to provide regular patrons with the cannot themselves accommodate. If you go into a big hotel any afternoon you will find the room clerks poring over a list of names and trying to squeeze just another person in. In some of the lobbies groups of men and women sometimes wait for hours before they can be placed. As soon as a room is vacated it is taken, and the rush continues. It has frequently happened in the last two weeks that persons arriving late at night who had not telegraphed beforehand had serious difficulty in getting a place to sleep.

Room clerks are getting to be somewhat apprehensive about how to handle the crowd that is expected for the automobile show.

"It does not seem to matter," said one of them yesterday, "how many new cars are built, the demand for accommodation keeps pace with the supply, and I believe if we had two or three big hotels more this winter they could all be doing a land office business."

STORY DID DIANA NO HARM.

What if a Mordid Did See in Her Bath the Maiden Most Perfect, Lady of Light.

Supreme Court Justice Bischoff went back to mythology yesterday in deciding that a woman who sued a newspaper for libel because it said she "was surprised by a process server while in the act of taking her morning bath" had not suffered damage.

"However shocking to her natural modesty and wounding to her sensibilities," says the Court, "it cannot truly be claimed that the plaintiff's character or reputation has in any sense been impaired. Action was punished, but Diana did not incur disgrace."

The Court says: "It would require some degree of torture to average intelligence seriously to assert that to say of a woman that she was surprised by an intrusive visitor while enjoying her marital abstinence could in any way seriously reflect on her character."

The Court accordingly sustained a demurrer to the complaint, which asked for \$50,000 damages. Counsel for the plaintiff said in his brief: "A woman's reputation is a delicate thing and a breath is sufficient oftentimes to produce baneful effects."

SPECIAL SESSIONS ALL UP.

Extra Part Helps Justices to Catch Up With 6,000 Cases They Were Behind.

The Court of Special Sessions, which was 6,000 cases behind on its docket on April 1, when Part II. of the court was created, has caught up with its work, and the branch will go out of existence on December 1. At present Part I. is able to take care of all the cases that may be brought before it for some months. Chief Clerk Fuller thinks, however, that the docket will become congested during the coming year.

"It is to be hoped that the Legislature will continue Part II.," he said. "Cases accumulate rapidly in Special Sessions. Occasionally the police send us as many as 600 a week."

The Justices are preparing a statistical report for the legislative committee investigating the inferior courts of the city. Part II. has collected about \$25,000 in fines.

Shotgun Marriage Annulled.

Alfred Morgan Hanft, who testified that he was forced to marry Miss Besie Hubbard at the muzzle of a shotgun in the hands of her father in Crewe, Dinwiddie county, Va., in April of last year, is freed from the bondage by a decision of Justice Garretson in the Supreme Court in Flushing. No defence was made.

Dulfer Before the Grand Jury.

The Grand Jury in Brooklyn is investigating the recent alleged brutal attack of Police Captain William Dulfer of the Flatbush station on Patrolman James McCormick. Yesterday Capt. Dulfer appeared before the jury as a voluntary witness. He had asked to be heard in his own defence.

Think Right about Christmas.

A piano is a great gift if it is a great piano, but the price need not be great.

Think right about an Estey 7 West 29th Street, New York

CHRIS OLIVE OIL.

The Best For Invalids

ELEVENTH AVENUE TRACKS.

Referee D-Cady Herick Begins Taking Testimony.

Sitting as referee, D-Cady Herick began yesterday to take testimony on the application for an injunction which has been made by the New York Central Railroad to prevent the city removing its tracks from Eleventh avenue. Counsel for the company put in evidence a great mass of documents showing that the city had in 1886 first granted a charter for the occupancy of the avenue to the Hudson River Railroad Company and that with the consent of the city authorities the rights had afterward been transferred to the New York Central.

The company will put in statistics showing the volume of freight moved daily on the Eleventh avenue line and will argue that doing away with the carrying facilities for this freight would be injurious to the trade of the port. The referee asked for the presentation of such evidence for the reason, as he stated, that the amount of traffic coming into the city over the tracks would be a factor that would have to be taken into consideration.

"Well," said Assistant Corporation Counsel Burr to the counsel for the company, "if you are going to offer evidence as to the tonnage of freight carried over the tracks I can promise you that we also will have some figures to lay before the referee." The hearing will be continued to-day.

MRS. RICE FOR QUARTER FOURTH.

Anti-Noise Society President Urges Less Dangerous Celebrations.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 17.—Charles J. Bonaparte, former Attorney-General of the United States, was to-day elected president of the American Municipal League, in session in Cincinnati. J. Horace McFarland, president of the American Civic Association, simultaneously in session, was also re-elected.

Mrs. Isaac L. Rice of New York, president of the Society for the Prevention of Unnecessary Noises, spoke before the American Civic Association on "Our Barbarous Fourth." Among other things she said:

"When the preparations for the celebration of a great anniversary are identified with those for a battle's time to pause and reflect whether a better observance of the day might not be advisable."

"It is impossible to exaggerate the stigma of shame incurred by the intelligent adult portion of the population in deliberately and scientifically preparing for the masses of children and the youthful, ignorant and heedless members of the community."

Harlan P. Kelley of Salem, Mass., addressed the American Civic Association on "The Billboard." He said:

"The bill poster is a parasite. His only reason for existence is the desire to make money."

MRS. TERRY'S ALIMONY.

Court Denies Sub-Treasurer's Motion, Which Wife Says Is Dilatory.

Supreme Court Justice Trux denied yesterday the motion by George S. Terry, Assistant Treasurer of the city, for an examination before trial of his wife, Lillie, and his son, Laurence, in Mrs. Terry's suit to recover \$6,000 alleged to be due on Terry's agreement in 1907 to pay his wife \$50 a week for the rest of her life. Terry wanted to show by the testimony of his wife and son that she had cancelled the agreement.

Mrs. Terry, who lives at Oaxaca, Mexico, with her daughter, declared that she had never seen her husband since he left her in 1907. She said that her son, who is at Chihuahua, Mexico, is now hostile to her, and knows nothing about the agreement anyhow.

Roxana's Engineer Suing A. T. Kemp.

A suit brought by Michael McNamara, formerly chief engineer of the yacht Roxana, under charter to Arthur T. Kemp, to recover \$51,000 from Mr. Kemp for false arrest went to trial before Supreme Court Justice Ford yesterday. The complaint states that Mr. Kemp had the engineer thrown into prison at Newbern, N. C., in November, 1906, when the yacht put in there, and subsequently had him indicted for mutiny. McNamara says he was also accused of usurping the command of the yacht, upon which charges he was indicted in North Carolina but released without trial.

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KIND WORDS FOR DU PONT.

RIVALS SAY POWDER TRUST WAS GOOD TO THEM.

Never Oppressive or Voracious, and Did Not Compel Surrender, the Witnesses Testify in the Government Suit—James B. Haggin Is One of Them.

Gershon M. Peters of Cincinnati proved a valuable witness for the so-called powder trust at yesterday's hearing in the suit of the Government against the Du Pont de Nemours Powder Company for alleged violation of the Sherman anti-trust law. Mr. Peters is president of the King Powder Company, an independent concern that had a three years agreement with the Du Ponts, from 1901 to 1904, by which the King company sold their output to the Du Ponts.

Under cross-examination Mr. Peters testified that in his dealings with the Du Ponts he always had found them ready to help out any small company as far as possible and that the attitude of the Du Ponts was anything but oppressive or indicative of a desire to suppress any smaller company. The witness said that he knew the attitude of the Du Ponts toward the Indiana Powder Company and that he thought it was kindly for the most part.

When asked if he knew Robert S. Waddell, a former witness against the trust and one of the men active in persuading the Government to bring suit against the Du Ponts, Mr. Peters replied that he did and said that Mr. Waddell was regarded by those active in the powder business in the '90s as one of the worst demoralizers of trade in the country at that time. Mr. Waddell was then employed by the Hazard Powder Company. The complaints in regard to Mr. Waddell's activities while with the Hazard people were considered at a meeting of the Gun Powder Trade Association, and the Hazard president apologized publicly for Mr. Waddell, according to Mr. Peters. The witness then told of the meetings of powder companies called together by the Du Ponts to discuss the situation in the financial depression of 1893 and the efforts made by the Du Ponts to prevent the price of powder going any lower.

Col. Henry du Pont at that time said to Mr. Peters that his company was endeavoring to prevent the hazardous fluctuations in prices and at the same time to respect the rights of the younger companies. As the result of these meetings competition seemed to increase and many new mills were started. The old companies made no attacks against their young rivals.

James B. Haggin testified in regard to the sale to the Du Ponts of the California Powder Works, saying that no compelling conditions forced the sale.

Murray Ballou, of Concord, Mass., another witness for the defence, said that the Sullivan agreement between the Miami Powder Company, the American Powder Company, the Etina Powder Company and the Du Ponts in regard to the sale of powder lasted only a short time and was not in the nature of restraint of trade.

BRITTON-SCHROEDER CHARGES.

Court to Examine Their Evidence That They Were Tricked in Their Trial.

Justice Stapleton in the Supreme Court in Brooklyn yesterday instructed Lawyer Max Brown, counsel for Britton and Schroeder, the convicted officials of the Eagle Savings and Loan Company, to submit all of his evidence and said that he would consider granting an order to examine his clients and the two men whom they accuse of being responsible for their conviction, former Senator Thomas C. Whitlock and Assistant District Attorney Elder.

The convicted bankers accuse Whitlock and Elder in affidavits which District Attorney Clarke says were slipped by them reprinted into the papers in the case. Brown says he has evidence that will corroborate these affidavits. He denies resorting to unprofessional conduct in his handling of the case.

Mr. Clarke said that he did not wish to oppose the granting of the order for an examination. He denoted the methods pursued by the defence and said that two affidavits in the case were missing from the County Clerk's office.

Three Police Captains Moved.

Commissioner Baker shifted about three police captains yesterday. Capt. Frederick Martens was transferred from Bridge St. to the Queensboro Bridge square to the East Eighty-eighth street station. Capt. Edward Hughes of the East Eighty-eighth street station was sent to East Sixty-seventh street and Capt. Jacob Brown, the disciplinarian of the department under Commissioner Bingham, went from the East Sixty-seventh street station to Bridge St.

Yellow Fever in Yucatan.

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 17.—Yellow fever has again made its appearance in Yucatan. Four cases are reported at Merida and one in the interior.



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